

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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10 October 1977

DOCUMENT 314/77

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs,
Employment and Education

on the proposals from the Commission of the European
Communities to the Council (Doc. 313/77) for

- a Decision regarding European Social
Fund assistance towards women
- a Regulation concerning operations
qualifying for a higher rate of intervention
by the European Social Fund

Rapporteur: Mr R. ADAMS

By letter of 6 October 1977 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 127 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a Council Decision regarding European Social Fund assistance towards women and a Council Regulation concerning operations qualifying for a higher rate of intervention by the European Social Fund.

On 7 October 1977 the President of the European Parliament referred this document to the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education.

On 20 September 1977 the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education appointed Mr Adams rapporteur.

It considered the draft report on 30 September 1977 and adopted the motion for a resolution unanimously.

Present: Mr Van der Gun, chairman; Mrs Dunwoody, vice-chairman (deputizing for the rapporteur); Mr Albers, Mr Bertrand, Mr Bouquerel, Mr Dinesen, Mr Dondelinger, Mr Feit, Mr Kavanagh, Mr Lezzi, Lord Murray of Gravesend, Mr Pisoni, Mr Pistillo, Mr Radoux (deputizing for Mr Carpentier), Mr Santer, Mr Schreiber and Mr Vandewiele.

The rapporteur will present the explanatory statement orally.

The Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for:

- a Decision regarding European Social Fund assistance towards women
- a Regulation concerning operations qualifying for a higher rate of intervention by the European Social Fund

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the document of the Commission of the European Communities (Doc. COM(77) 442/final),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 127 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 313/77),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education (Doc. 314/77)
1. Welcomes the Commission's initiative, already mentioned in the proposals on the reform of the Social Fund¹, aimed at applying Article 4 for measures to help women and at defining measures for specific areas particularly hit by the economic crisis involving a higher rate of intervention from the European Social Fund;
 2. Doubts, however, whether the commitment appropriations entered in the 1978 budget for measures between now and 1980 to help women over 25 are adequate and calls for a firm undertaking that additional funds will be made available if the successful applications in 1978 exceed the instalment for that year;
 3. Emphasizes the need for appropriations from the Social Fund to be used for operations promoting the specialized training of careers guidance officers, instructors and placement specialists for female workers, as proposed by the Commission in Article 1(2) of

¹ Doc. 50/77, 18 Apr 1 1977

its document, since the lack of proper qualifications among many of those responsible for placing workers makes the situation even more difficult for women who are looking for work;

4. Agrees in general with the Commission's forecast that the operations to be financed will only gradually become effective but fears that their scope and initial duration in no way reflect the already alarming degree of discrimination against women on the labour market;
5. Fully supports, however, the Commission's arguments concerning operations meriting a higher rate of intervention from the Social Fund in regions of the Community in particular jeopardy;
6. Welcomes the fact that in determining these regions, the Commission has followed regional policy guidelines and has thus begun the coordination of the various policies called for by the European Parliament in paragraph 4 of the motion for a resolution contained in its report¹ on the reform of the Social Fund;
7. Regrets that the Council has not complied with the recommendations of the Commission and the European Parliament that in certain cases the rate of intervention from the Social Fund should be increased to a maximum of 65%;
8. Calls on the Council of Social Affairs Ministers to support the views of the Commission and the European Parliament and, in view of the urgency of the existing problems, to adopt the present proposals at its next meeting.

¹ OJ No. C 133, 6.6.1977, p.39

